

**Question for written answer E-004646/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Dismissal of Italian journalist Gabriele Nunziati and EU double standards on freedom of the press and freedom of expression

On 13 October 2025, Italian journalist Gabriele Nunziati asked the Commission Chief Spokesperson Paula Pinho a legitimate question about Israel's responsibility for the reconstruction of Gaza. On 27 October 2025, Agenzia Nova terminated its collaboration with Mr Nunziati, describing his question as 'inappropriate, erroneous and embarrassing'. The Italian Order of Journalists expressed dismay, reiterating that 'journalists cannot be dismissed for asking questions'.

This affair exposes the contradiction between the rhetoric of the European 'democratic shield' and the reality concerning freedom of the press. The EU cannot call itself a 'fortress of free media' while tolerating a climate of intimidation that stifles probing questions at the heart of the EU institutions, in violation of Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. While the EU mobilises against external interference and preaches press freedom, journalists face dismissal for simply asking a question that the Commission has yet to address.

1. The Commission has repeatedly stated that Russia should pay for the reconstruction of Ukraine. What is its opinion on whether Israel should pay for the reconstruction of Gaza, considering that Israel has destroyed the Gaza Strip?
2. What measures does it intend to take to discourage reprisals against independent journalists by news agencies in order to guarantee freedom of expression?
3. Is the Commission concerned about this case, and has it been in contact with Agenzia Nova?

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